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TODAY and TOMORROW

The Pacific War

THE latest reports from the various sectors of the Pacific War theatre offer unmistakable indications of American pessimism—almost amounting to defeatism—and the inevitable conclusion that the much-boosted American invasion forces are cracking up under the death-defying resistance put up by the Imperial forces.

When the Iwoojima landing operations began, the Americans were highly optimistic. They claimed that landings on the Nippon mainland would follow very soon. But the Iwoojima battle was a bitter lesson for the Americans. For this island, they had to pay a heavy price—33,000 personnel casualties besides ships and war materials. The American people were shocked by these very high casualty figures and extreme pessimism about the war against Nippon began to prevail. So Admiral Nimitz decided upon another foolhardy stunt and sent out a naval task force south-east of Kyushu.

But the Kyushu task force suffered a disastrous defeat. The Americans lost five aircraft carriers, 2 battleships, 3 cruisers and one warship of unidentified category—all sunk, besides several other warships damaged. Reconnaissance reports up to March 21 revealed that the fleeing American task force had much less than half its original number of ships left. Truly a crippling defeat!

Thus Nimitz's propaganda stunt failed miserably. The American people became more pessimistic than ever. In fact, even experts began to make surprising statements about the strengh of the Imperial Navy. They said that their previous estimates were all wrong, because they had grossly underrated the strength of the Imperial Navy as well as Nippon's production capacity.

Facts—that is, the results of the Iwoojima battle and the battle in the Kyushu waters—forced these admissions from the Americans. The crippling defeat inflicted on the Kyushu task force has changed the tone of American propaganda, with the result that the Americans no longer talk of landings on the Nippon mainland in the near future—or even at any late date.

Another example of the American plight is seen in their Philippines campaign. Soon after the occupation of parts of the Philippines, the Americans propagandized about immediate landings on China. Probably they hoped to effect landings on French Indo-China through the treachery of the Decoux administration. But the Nippon forces frustrated all their hopes. And today, Nippon's task of strengthening her positions in China goes on more speedily than ever.

Realising the impossibility of landing on China, Nimitz had to try the Kyushu task force stunt. Now that the Kyushu task force has suffered a crippling defeat, the Americans have to give up all talk of immediate landings on China or on the Nippon mainland. They pretend that blockade and bombing will win the war for them.

But the Anglo-Americans cannot fight a long war. They will soon be forced to try other foolhardy stunts which will ultimately end in their total defeat and destruction.

86th Session Of Imperial Diet Now Concluded

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Premier's Closing Speech Inspires Whole Nation With Sure Victory

Tokyo, March 26 (Domei)—With its mission of deliberating and passing measures to deal with the present situation successfully accomplished, the 86th session of the Imperial Diet held its closing ceremony today during which Premier General Kuniaki Koiso read the Imperial Rescript.

In the course of the present session, whose business virtually ended yesterday, the Diet approved no less than 35 legislative as well as budget bills. Government, working out sure victory policies, voiced its determination to fight on till victory in the course of the session and Diet members, realizing their oneness with Government, displayed their true merit and co-operation.

Particularly noteworthy is the fact that the Diet, in the course of this session, expressed on behalf of the entire people firm determination to repel any enemy attempt at invading our homelaid.

Tokyo, March 27 (Domei)—In a statement issued following the closing ceremony of the 86th session of the Imperial Diet, Premier General Kuniaki Koiso yesterday assured that Government will immediately put into execution policies stressed during the session to boost the nation's fighting strength and successfully prosecute the War of Greater East Asia.

Stressing that Government has voiced its determination to surmount the national crisis, the Premier emphasized that Government has announced its basic policy which calls on the entire people to rise to the occasion. Paying high tribute to the enthusiasm shown by the Diet, the Premier stated a spirit of sure victory prevailed throughout the session, adding that the determination of the whole nation to forge ahead for sure victory had been enhanced through the Diet session held at this juncture when the Empire is confronted with a crucial war situation.

Government, the Premier declared, will further concentrate the total strengh of the entire nation through aggrandizing Nippon's fighting power, thereby ensuring the successful defence of the homeland.

Admiral Nimitz Admits Damage To Task Force

Lisbon, Mar. 25 (Domei)—In its first brief mention of losses, Fleet Admiral Nimitz's Headquarters today admitted that an American destroyer was heavily damaged and another war vessel was slightly impaired when the American task force raided Nippon on Mar. 20 and 21.

OVER ONE DIVISION OF FOE TROOPS KILLED, WOUNDED ON IRRAWADDY WAR FRONT

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36th Army Strength Almost Crushed Foe Communications Threatened

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Burma Front, March 25 (Domei)—After some ten days of bitter struggle against the numerically superior enemy, Nippon garrison troops in Mandalay on March 20 successfully broke through the enemy's encirclement ring to occupy new positions and are now waging a fierce battle against enemy forces.

Together with the successful Nippon attack against the enemy's armoured columns in the Meiktila sector, 90 kilometres south of Mandalay, this valiant defence of Mandalay by Nippon garrison troops has enabled other Nippon forces to readjust their battleline while exacting a heavy toll from the enemy.

In the Irrawaddy River sector our forces have slain or wounded more than one division of enemy troops, besides crushing half the strength of the British Indian 36th Division. The enemy, who is racking his brain to replenish his depleted strength, is now also confronted with the difficult problem of maintaining his rear line of communication across the great Irrawaddy River. The approach of the monsoon season is also giving him added anxieties.

Since the enemy's 19th Division commenced fording operations across the Irrawaddy River at a point north of Mandalay, in the middle part of February, the enemy sustained the following casualties and damage:

Firstly, in the Singu-Mandalay sector, more than 2,000 casualties and 15 tanks stranded and set ablaze.

Secondly, in the Myinmu sector, more than 5,000 casualties and more than 20 tanks stranded and set ablaze.

Thirdly, in the Meiktila sector, more than 1,200 casualties and more than 92 tanks knocked out and set ablaze.

A Nippon Base in Burma, March 26 (Domei)—Nippon night-bombers escorted by fighters last night surprise-raided the harbour of Akyab and instantaneously sank three large-size transports and one gunboat and damaged two large size transports off the port area.

On the same night our night-bombers and fighters, in great strength, also attacked enemy airfields at Akyab, Kyaukpyu on Ramree Island, and Cox's Bazar in Eastern Bengal and set ablaze more than 20 enemy aircraft on the ground as well as causing huge explosions at several points.

Akajima And Tokashiki Invasion Forces Being Furiously Intercepted

Tokyo, March 26 (Domei)—Our garrison units are now fiercely intercepting enemy forces which by means of approximately 100 barges attempted a landing in the vicinity of Aka, on Akajima, as well as Awazure, on Tokashiki Island, of the Ryukyu Group, at 7.30 a.m. March 25, with the support of intensive bombardment.

The enemy landing attempt was made after continuous aerial bombing attacks and naval bombardment by an enemy task force since the morning of March 24 against Okinawa, main island of the Ryukyu Group as well as Miyakojima and Kelamajima.

Taihoku, Taiwan, March 25 (Domei)—The main island of Okinawa of the Ryukyu Group was subjected to enemy bombardment three times yesterday morning, March 24.

The attacks were made by part of an enemy task force which, following up the previous day's assault, released a total of 430 deck-planes in raids against the Okinawa mainland and Miyakojima from about 8.00 a.m.

Our air defence units brought down 12 and damaged 18 of the enemy raiders.

Burma's Special Attack Corps Goes To Front To Take Vengeance On Foe

Rangoon, Mar. 26 (Domei)—Troops of the Burmese Special Attack Force which was organized more than a year ago and since has been receiving intensive training, were this morning personally inspected by Supreme Commander Ba Maw prior to their departure for the front.

Large contingents of this special force had already left for active service with other units of the Burmese Army, and the troops inspected this morning were just the nucleus of a force commanded by Lieut.-Colonel Bo Yannaing, veteran of the Burmese Independence Army.

Following a thorough inspection the Supreme Commander declared, "Comrades, I am with you in life or death, and the duty entrusted you is the vital one of defending Burma's blood and integrity."

Bitterly assailing the British for their sacrilegious attacks on many of Burma's hallowed monasteries and pagodas, the Supreme Commander exhorted the men to "go out and meet the enemy and defeat him."

Loot Before Rout; Bengal's Plight Daily Mounting

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Bengal Government's New Confiscation Order Hits Hard Whole Populace

While the people of Bengal are experiencing great hardships as a result of the acute shortage of cloth, a New Delhi report states that the callous British authorities have taken further steps to make the situation much worse for the people by ordering the confiscation of all available cloth in the province. Agents of the British have been empowered by the authorities to search any premises in the city of Calcutta in which cloth or yarn is stored. The order also empowers these agents to seal the premises if necessary.

Another order restricts the movement of cloth or yarn from any place of business or storage within Calcutta without a permit. Infringement of the order will be followed by forfeiture of the cloth or yarn concerned. The New Delhi report adds that the order will come into force at once. It is understood that this high-handed action of the British authorities in ordering the confiscation of all available cloth in Bengal has resulted in a further intensification of the anti-British revolution that is now raging in the privince.

Meanwhile, Sir Arthur Griffin, Chief Commissioner of Railways in India, indirectly admitted that the railways have suffered considerable damage as a result of the increased sabotage activities of the Indian revolutionaries. Speaking at the railways exhibition in New Delhi on Sunday, Sir Arthur said that the situation was serious and therefore, the Railway Board and the Railway administration of the country were examining measures for the re-equipment of the railways.

It will be recalled that the latest attempt of the revolutionary forces in India to hamper British war transport by striking at the railways was successfully carried out a few days ago on the Karachi-Hyderabad section of the North-western Railway. It was reported that as a result of a railway accident, many persons were killed and many others badly injured. Strict British censorship suppressed the real cause of the accident.

Enemy Positions On Iwoojima Pounded

A Nippon Base in the Central Pacific, March 26 (Domei)—The first air raid on Iwoojima since its fall into enemy hands was conducted by the Nippon air force on the afternoon of March 25. Nippon raiders dropped all bomb loads upon enemy positions to cause fires and explosions at many points.

Wehrmacht Hurls Back Americans On Rhine Front

Berlin, March 25 (Domei)—Franz Westhoff, Trans-Ocean correspondent, in a dispatch from the Rhine Front, reported that hard-fighting Wehrmacht forces yesterday fiercely checked the American First Army, which launched a major attack in an easterly direction along a 45-kilometre front from east of Remagen under cover of a heavy artillery barrage.

Although the Americans incessantly hurled in artillery and low-flying aircraft, the Germans, in heavy ding-dong fighting, succeeded in smashing American break-through attempts and are holding the thrust to insignificant gains, he said.

At dawn, German panzer groups and self-propelled guns, the correspondent said, dashed into the attacking Americans and violent fighting developed for every foot of ground, every piece of wood and hill. When the sun had risen to the zenith at noon, the battle was still raging with undiminished fury.

Finally, the German counter-attack gained ground step by step with the support of excellently directed German artillery fire, and the Germans recaptured the places the Americans previously had taken. During the afternoon hours, the Americans renewed their assaults with numerically far superior forces and gained some ground—at the maximum several hundred metres—after incurring heavy losses, Westhoff said.

In the central sector of the American First Army front, American attacks were reported to have collapsed in the face of stubborn German resistance.

The German High Command announced that anti-Axis forces have made a new crossing of the Rhine south of Coblenz. "Violent fighting" is going on against the Americans who crossed the river near Braubach, Boppard and Saint Goarshausen, it said.

In the north, the official German communique reported fierce fighting in the sectors between Rees and Dinslaken, east of the Rhine.

In the Kuestrin sector, opposite Berlin, the German High Command said that the three-day Soviet assaults against German positions have failed.

Palestine Arabs Stage 1-Day General Strike

Lisbon, March 25 (Domei)—Palestine's Arab population today held a one-day general strike throughout the country as a protest against the decision of the British authorities henceforth to grant the mayoralty of Jerusalem to a Muslim, Jew and Christian in triple rotation, according to a Jerusalem dispatch. All Arab businesses closed their doors in keeping with the manifesto issued by the powerful Arab Party of Palestine.

Four Nanking Raiders Downed & Damaged

Nanking, March 25 (Domei)—Our air defence units this afternoon brought down one and damaged three out of 15 P-51's which, in two waves, attacked the Nanking district. The enemy planes in formations of two to four planes concentrated their strafing attacks on the section in the vicinity of the airfield.

Of the three damaged enemy planes, one was accounted for by our anti-aircraft gunfire. No damage was sustained by our side.

Chungking's Racial Policy Not Popular In Sinkiang Province

Shanghai, Mar. 25 (Domei)—Indicating increasing complexity in the Chungking regime's Mohammedan appeasement policy in Sinkiang Province, armed clashes are occurring throughout the province between Chungking troops and Mohammedans.

According to a Chinese resident who recently returned from Lanchow, the six million Mohammedans in Sinkiang, unable to withstand the tyrannical administration enforced since the garrisoning of Chungking troops there, raised riots throughout the province since the end of last year and butchered nearly 200 Chinese at various places.

He said that the Mohammedans seized Weili, approximately 290 kilometres south of Urumtsi, and attempts by the Chungking garrison to quell the uprising resulted in armed clashes and bloodshed. He added that due to these clashes, communictions between Lanchow and Hami have been completely cut off.

Chungking has been making every attempt to cover up the facts regarding this situation. However, the Central News Agency in a dispatch from Urumtsi dated Feb. 23 admitted riots were taking place by reporting that frantic efforts expended by the Sinkiang Provincial Government from the beginning of this year up to March resulted in the surrender of 2,000 members of the Mohammedan army at Hutupei, Fukang and Changki.

Meanwhile, it was reported that Sheng Shih-tsai, while on his way to assume the post of Agriculture Minister at Chungking, narrowly escaped death when he ran into the rioting Mohammedan army at Hami on March 3. Thus, it can be clearly perceived that the Chungking regime's racial policy in Sinkiang Province is meeting with extreme difficulties.

Malacca Saiken Draw Results Announced

Malacca, March 26 (Domei)—In the presence of Vice-Governor Fujimoto, Nippon officials, representatives of various communities and the public, the first drawing of the Malacca Saiken was held at the Toa Enbuzyo on March 21.

The following are the winning numbers: First Prize: ($10,000) No 122799; Second Prize ($5,000) No. 118163; Third Prize: (3 tickets of $1,000 each) Nos. 112280; 100163; 109077. Fourth Prize: (5 tickets of $500 each): Nos. 121237; 123142; 100605; 112393; 115422. Fifth Prize (20 tickets of $100 each) Nos: 117136; 110611; 116628; 120003; 108727; 105270; 103388; 113712; 105400; 110723; 106174; 124205; 123107; 109895; 123562; 104289; 124118, 124090; 119349; 104812. Sixth Prize: (100 tickets of $50 each)—All tickets ending with the following digits —881; 270; 921; 148. Seventh Prize: (250 tickets of $10 each) —All tickets ending with the following digits:—87.

Twenty-five thousand tickets in all were issued at $2 per ticket making a total value of $50,000, out of which $30,000, or 60 per cent, will be distributed as prizes, while the remaining $20,000 will be utilised for general relief work, public works and other construction schemes.

Conditions Miserable In "Liberated" France

Lisbon, March 25 (Domei)—Owing to the continued inability of the Anglo-American powers to fulfil their food pledges to the French people despite the latter's urgent request for immediate assistance, the food shortage in "liberated" France has assumed alarming proportions, according to dispatches received here.

Paris newspapers received here are full of news reporting the miserable conditions existing in France as the result of the food scarcity. With malnutrition prevailing thoughout the country, there has been an alarming increase in tuberculosis, reports indicated.

Serious Strike Breaks Out In Richmond Yards

Lisbon, March 25 (Domei)—Despite the United States Navy Department's strenuous efforts to step up the efficiency of Pacific Coast shipyards in order to meet mounting war demands, including the repair of battle-damaged ships, a fresh strike has broken out at the Kaiser shipyards at Richmond, California, according to an Associated Press message received here today.

The labour dispute is said to have arisen when members of the Shipyards Workers Union of the American Federation of Labour accused their employers with showing preference to other labour unions.

Meantime, the walk-out which is hampering production in Hollywood's film industry, yesterday was reported to have entered into its thirteenth day. Hopes for an early settlement of the motion picture strike fizzled when no agreement was reached yesterday at a conference of representatives of film producers and members of the striking A.F.L. union.

NOTICE

Rates for Telegrams and Trunk Calls Revised

With a view to the speedy transmission of important telegrams, the Tusinkyoku rejects to forward unimportant telegrams (concerning congratulations, condolences, sympathy or safety, etc.) since March 15.

In order to attain the object it is necessary to revise the charge for telegrams within Malai and also telephone subscriptions and relative trunk call fees which will come into force on April 1st as follows:—

1. Charge for telegram in Malai.
Katakana:
PRIVATE 60 cents for a minimum of 20 characters and 30 cents extra for every additional 10 characters or part thereof.
GOVERNMENT (as above).
Romanized:
PRIVATE 1 dollar for a minimum of 10 words and 10 cents for every additional word.
GOVERNMENT (as above).

2. Trunk call fee.
Rate will be increased about 30 per cent. The list will be posted up at each telephone call office.

3. Subscription rates.
$240 per annum. (Distinction between private line and business line is abolished).

TUSINKYOKU-TYO,
Syonan Gunsei Sokanbu.
22nd March, 2605.

U.S. Schemes To Ensure Post-War Trade In Br. Isles

Lisbon, March 25 (Domei)—American manufacturing exporters are seeking plants for post-war production in Britain as a hedge against post-war exchange restrictions which might bar many types of American goods from Britain as well as from the sterling area, a Reuter message from London authoritatively reported here today.

That American businessmen not only are intending to "cut in" on British export trade but the Sterling bloc is indicated in the fact that in the past two months more than 50 requests for guidance in finding suitable plants have been made to the American Chamber of Commerce in London and as many more are being pressed through other channels.

The Reuter dispatch said other devices to which large-scale American exporters are giving study to ensure post-war sales of their products in Britain include sales on sterling rather than dollar basis and the establishment of wholesale import distributing agencies to market British merchandize in the United States.

In this case, the Americans intend to use part of the sterling balances accumulated in London for the purchase of raw materials or other needs in the sterling area.

The length to which United States exporters are prepared to go to hold the market for their goods in Britain "stem from the realization of Britain's desperate exchange situation and the knowledge that a priority and licensing system will be applied to imports in Britain for some time after the war."

At the same time, there are strong grounds for believing that American exporters are anxious to encroach deeper into British markets during the post-war period in order to dispose of surplus stocks of civilian goods which are expected to result when America's highly-stepped up war industries are turned over to civilian use.

SYONAN TOKUBETU-SI NOTICE No. 25.

Re: Renewal of Licence for the manufacture of tobacco and the sale of tobacco.

Licences for the above businesses should be renewed as follows:—

1. Period for renewal of Licence: March 20th to March 31st, Showa 20.

2. Effective Period of Licence:
(1) Manufacturers: 6 months from April 1st to September 30th.
(2) Sellers: 1 year from April 1st to March 31st next year.

3. Licence Fees: (1) Licence fee for manufacture of tobacco:
Class A: $300 per month
Class B: $150 per month
Class C: $50 per month
(2) Licence fee for sale of tobacco:
Class A: $100 per year
Class B: $50 per year
Class C: $20 per year

4. Period for payment of Licence Fees: April 1st to April 20th, Showa 20.

5. Place of Application: Zaimu-ka Bunsitu Honbu-zei Kakari, Syonan Tokubetu-si.

NOTE:—Licence for the sale of tobacco will be issued according to the adjustment of business enterprises. After the businesses which are to remain have been fixed, the licencees will be informed.

SYONAN TOKUBETU-SI TYO.
March 26, Showa 20.

Financial Commissioner For Indo-China Appointed

Saigon, March 23 (Domei)—Tsunehiko Kanai, manager of the Yokohama Specie Bank's Saigon branch, has been appointed Acting Financial Commissioner for the Indo-China Government-General. He is the first Nippon civilian to be appointed to a government post in Indo-China.

NOTICE

Instructions Regarding Selection of Civilian Candidates for Officers' Training School, Azad Hind Fauj (I.N.A.)

1. Applications are invited from Indian Civilians for the next course at the Officers' Training School, which will commence with effect from 15 May, 2605.

2. The Selection Board will sit at the undermentioned Centres:—
CENTRE "A"—SYONAN—Candidates from Syonan, Johore, Malacca and Negri Sembilan will be interviewed at Officers' Club, Bidadari, Syonan from 25—28 April, 2605 (10 a.m. T.T.)
CENTRE "B"—IPOH—Candidates from Selangor, Pahang, Perak, Penang and Province Wellesley, Kedah, Kelantan and Trengganu will be interviewed at the I.I.L. Ipoh, Station Road, Ipoh, from 3—6 May, 2605 (10 a.m. T.T.)

3. Applications from candidates residing in States under Centre "A" are required to reach Malai Branch Dept., Rear H.Qrs., I.I.L. on or before 20 April, 2605. Applications from candidates residing in States under Centre "B" are required to reach I.I.L., Ipoh Branch, Station Road, Ipoh, on or before 25 April, 2605. All applications must be sent through the League Office where the applicant resides giving the following particulars:—
(i) Name and Address.
(ii) Age.
(iii) Height.
(iv) Previous Military Training.
(v) Languages known.
(vi) Educational Qualifications.
(vii) Present Occupation.
(viii) Married or Single.
(ix) Whether willing to join the Army as Officer or in any other capacity.

4. All applicants are required to:—
EDUCATION:
Be in possession of a Matriculation or an equivalent certificate of education. This certificate will be produced before the Selection Board.
AGE:
Be between 19 to 30 years of age. Birth certificate, if possible, to be produced before the Selection Board.
PHYSICAL FITNESS:
(i) Be physically fit to bear the strain of rigorous training imparted at the Officers' Training School.
(ii) Be in possession of a Medical Certificate signed by one of the doctors who have already been authorised by the Azad Hind Fauj. This information can be obtained from the League Offices.
CHARACTER:
Be in possession of a certificate signed by the Chairman of the Local Branch of I.I.L. testifying good character and sincerity towards the Indian Independence Movement.

5. The fulfilment of the above-mentioned requirements will render all applicants eligible for selection. Candidates who failed in the previous selections are also eligible to reappear.

6. Outstation candidates for both centres will travel at their own expense. Arrangements for food and accommodation during their stay in Syonan will be made in the Azad Hind Fauj Camp, Bidadari from 24 April, 2605. Those arriving by rail on 24 April, 2605 will be met at the Railway Station, Syonan. In Ipoh the candidates will be accommodated and fed by the Station Commander, Azad Hind Fauj, Ipoh from 2nd May, 2605. Those arriving in Ipoh by rail on 2nd May, 2605, will be met at the Railway Station.

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